



THOUGHTS FROM CAPITOL HILL
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Taxpayer Dollars Should Not Be Used to Subsidize the Destruction of Human Life

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today's action by President Obama to eliminate restrictions on embryonic stem cell research is not about whether or not to permit embryonic stem cell research in America. Instead, it is about who foots the bill.

On Aug. 9, 2001, the Bush administration limited the number of cell lines that could be studied using federal money, preventing tax dollars from encouraging the destruction of embryos. By rescinding this policy, President Obama cleared the way for a considerable increase in embryonic stem cell research backed by the American taxpayer.

The process for embryonic stem cell research requires the creation and termination of human life. The Obama administration's decision obligates citizens, regardless of their moral or religious convictions, to fund this research further weakening the protection of the unborn.

Embryonic stem cell research is going to be done with or without the American public footing the bill. Therefore, taxpayer dollars should not be used to subsidize the destruction of human life when millions of Americans strongly oppose this research.

Instead of encouraging such controversial practices, the Administration should support bipartisan solutions like H.R. 877, the Patient's First Act which would promote research using stem cells that have proven results and are ethically obtained. Medical advancements in adult stem cell research demonstrate that the full potential of stem cell research can be accomplished without destroying precious human life.

With the existence of this viable and proven alternative, hard-working citizens should not be forced to financially back initiatives that go against their moral fiber. Looking forward, I am hopeful that the President will re-evaluate this decision and restore this important protection of the unborn.

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